

Fall of King

Nabuchadnezzar.

Dan.4.28.29.30.

By Henrie Smith.



Printed by Thomas Scarlet.



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n starpe propertien

Dan. 428.29.30.

By HemicStoids.



Planto Thoma Scola.



Dan.4.28.

28 While the word was in his mouth, a voice same from beauen, saying : 0 King Nabuchadnezzer, to thee be it spokin thy kingdome is departbred from thegoris 29 And they fist drive thee from men or and thy deselling shall bee with the to bealts of the field, they had make thee zi to eate graffe with the Quen; & fewen times shell passe over thee watill . Thou knowest that the most highest God beareth rule over the kingdoms ofmen, and giveth to whomfoever in in his mifer, as it weetling one-30 The verie fame hours was this thing fulfitled appun Nabuchador nezzen orand bee was driven - from men , and did ease graffe as lines

as the Oxen, and his bodie was wet with the dew of heaven, til his haires were growne as Eagles fethers, and his nayles as birdes clawes.



Rom the 26 to the ende of this chapter, is laide downe the pride; fall, and reftitution of Nabuchadnesser. The

two first verses are like a banner of his pride, which shewe him in his rusteling as it were in the aire, before hee knewe God, or himselfe. The three next verses are the discoverie of his shame, which shew him in his misery, as it were groueling or the ground, after God had cooled his courage. The four elast verses are the celebration of his recovery, which shew him in his holines

lines as it were rapt into heaven,& finging with the faints for iovithat God had brought him wood his knowledge, thoghit werethingh shaneand trouble, and offerofall thanhe had seven yeers together. Of his pride we have heardilros die : yet because we are frendesto vices as wee are to men, follows as they prosper & Houville, but when they decay and fal, then we firiak away, and are afriamed of them: fo it may bee, if yee could for pride take a fall, though belone her well yet yee would for take her, like a banquerous, when we fee that thee can pleasure you no tonger. Therforeyet shall fee Nabachadnezzer oppor his feete againe: before you beheld him opport his knees, that when we fee what adding the was in his galleries; and after Ends his ferand uants

wants in his pallace, & his Tubieds in histhrone, & himfelf like a beaft in the wildernes, God may give you hearts to thinke a little of this finne, what it is which coft fo dere, and is as common now in eliene house, as it was then in the Kings court (in) his 5 We in ... oed

After twelve moneths, (fayth Daniel) that is, tweluemoneths after Go b had warned this King by dreames and by Daniel to repent his finnes, he was strouting in his galleries, and thought what finne should be next, as though hee had neuer heard of dreme or Prophe :

By this computation of finne, wherin the moneths are observed fo exactly, how long Nabuchadnezzer rebelled after hee was warned. Daniel thewes what a reckoning God keepes of our mongths, THEFT

and

and weekes and daies which hee gives voit repent, as he did to Na Buchadnezzer, & whatavaccount weethallmake of them as Mabus chadadezer did, though we south no more of our age illum the child dottyothisyouth, and have done no hone of originske at wenty the when we were bur religible at thirt tiethen whe we were twenty, not arfortie then when we were thirl nic, yetwerhal give account of ho houres in the house of indement, and its fratthe hearies to the olde than to the young? to you which hanethoword, than would which wahrinund here is great ods beoweene Nubuchadnezzerbad vs. for hee which challenged Nabu chadnezzer for twelne moneths finochewaswarned, mal/challege voof 12 yeres findent ewerwarned felfe. and

and yet weelooke not for fo great purishment as fel vpon Nabuchad nezzer for twelve moneths. Daniel names thefe twelue moneths, as though he would speake of a great matter, and shewes how worthic Nabuchadher iser was to bee punifhed, because he might have reformed his life fince he was warned: for there were twelve monethes betweene his dreames and his banishment. But that years wherein hee had so manie warnings & reachings was as vaine as the reft, and vainer then the yeares before : for now he fliould have benea mounner like the king of Ninine, when Ionas threatened destruction vnto them. achier which challenge

But like a victor of a countrie returned from battel, to folemnize his triumph, first hee deckes him-felfe,

felfe, and then hee walkes his flationsinit, and when hee hath fet all thinges before him, which might make him forget God, and hoift himselfin pride, like a serpent that would burft vnleffe he discharged fome of his poyfon, he breakes out and faith : Is not this great Babel, which I have built by the might of any power, for the honour of my maiestie ? Wherein observe first what a glorious opinion this vaine king had of his vaine buildings. Secondly, how that hee names himselfe the founder of them, as thogh he had done all without an helpe. Thirdlythat in all his workes he fought nothing but vaine glory as he with neffect against himselfe, faying) which I have built for the bonour of my maistic, not fornbehonor of Gods majefile, but for the honor of my urcs maiestie,

maiestie . So first that which free should have contemned as Christ did the beautic of the Temple, he Math. 24.2. admired it, and nothing feemed fo glorious to him, as that which made him shamefull to Godb Secondly that Citie which was built by Semiramis, he arrogateth to him felfe, and neuerioyned the chiefe workemaister with him, but faith which I have built by the might of my when he should have faide, by the might of Gods power. For vrileffe God builde the house, the 2.King. 4 10. builders (faith David) buildeth but in vaine d manuorhi will a mob Laftly, that which hee should have builte for the honour of God sas the man built a chamber for the Propher he builded for his owne honor, as dur Nabuchedoex. sers do. Theifore when all his ple-

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fures

fures were prepared like a feaft, & he came to fit down at the banket, it happened to him as to the churl in the Gospell, after he had filled his barnes, when hee came to fing to his hart, be merie my foule, that night his foule was taken from Luk. 12. 14 him, and the deuilles made merrie with it in hell: fo hee had feathered his neaft, and beganne to crowe vppon the roofe, Isnot this greate Babel, &c. As if hee should faie, Nowe Nabuchadnezzer, make thee merrie, that houre his honour was taken from him, for a voice came downe from heaven like the terrible hand which wrote vpon the wall, when Baltazar fate Dan, 5.5. at his banquet, and dasht his pride vpon such a rocke, that within an houre all his pompe & pleafures & treasures, suffered such a shipwrack - A that

that his fall was more admired of all, then his glorie and buildinges were admired of himselfe. Thus al the loy, and pleasures, and glory of pride, are spoken with a breath, &

stopt with an other.

You have heard what the voice spake from earth, nowe you shall heare what the voice founds from heauen. These three verses following declare this kings fall, when, and how, and from whom it was. While the wordes were yet, or there is the time . A voice, &c. there is the iudge . O king, &c. there is the arraignment. Thy kingdome, &c. there is the judgment. He was driven from men & lived with beastes in the wildernes, till his hairs were grown like Eagles feathers, there is the execution, and manner of his punishment . First of the time, While, oc.

As

As Daniel observed the time when Nabuchadnezzer finned, fo he observeth the time when Nabuchadnezzer is punished, as if Go D had lien in waite to catch him in his words, and take him at the trip; euen as hee watched Lots wife, Gen, 14.26. when she looked backe, and transformed her into a piller of falte, fo foone as fhee looked behinde. So now the Lord lay as it were in the skoute, to watch when Nabuchad. nezzer spake treason, and to apprehend him vpon it. O Nabuchadnezzer, thou hast vanted these twelve moneths fince I warned thee, and I made as though I heard not, but fuffered thee to do and speake thy pleasure, and vauntest thou still! Surely thou shalt scape me no longer, I will not heare a worde more against mine honour: so hee cuttet h

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cut him off while the words were in his mouth, & propoundeth the wordes of judgement against him. If you marke the time when the voice spake from heaven; you may fee three wifedomes of God, first God takes him in his fault, that he might fee his fault as Ieroboam was stroken when hee stroke the Pro-1.King. 13. phet, that he might know why hee was stroken. Then he takes him sodenly because he contemneth his warning, as the fire came vpon So-Gen 19.24 dome while they contemned Lots warning. Thirdly, God takes him wher he is pleasantest, & lustiest,& fafest, in his pallace, which was like

a castle, as hee tooke Herod, when Act. 12,23 his garde stoode by him, that hee might see nothing can garde him from God, but Go p must garde him from daunger, or else Princes

be

be not fafer than subjects: so thogh a man fin often, and steale his fins as it were without punishment, yet at the last hee is tooke napping while the wickednes is in his hand as the Iewes were, while the quails Num. 11.33 were in their mouthes. When hee shall pay for all, whether it be after twelue moneths, or twelue yeares, whenfoeuer it commeth, it will feeme too foone. Vengeance doth stay till sinne be ripe, & watch the time when they are most occupied: then judgement steps foorth, like the Angell to stoppe Balaam in his waye. Because the punishment is more terrible and greuous when they looke not for it (for the worst that is, wish like Balaam to die the death of the righteous) therefore God will croffe them in that: though they profper alwaies before,

before, yet their endes shall bee a kinde of judgement ypon all their life; and a prophesie of torment, for all men to see what becomes of the wicked after death, that they may feare to bee like vnto them. As when we see some striken dead while they forsweare themselues at the barre: some fall downe vnder the table, while they sitte swilling at the wine: some striken dumbe in the pulpit, while they preach vntruths: euen as the Philistines were slaine, while they

Acts.12.23. feasted: and as Herode was shamed, while hee vaunted: and as

froke. What doth this teach vs, but that our finnes depart from vs, fo foone as they are done, vnto the Iudge, and there they accuse vs, as Caines murder cryedoutagainst

his brother. Iknowe thy works, saith Reacl. 3.15.
God: hee may say, I knowe thy wordes and thy thoughts too. For Iudas could not goe so closelie about his treacherie, but that Christ did knowe when the thought entered into his heart, and heard when hee conferred also with the Scribes, and sawe likewise when he tooke the bribe, though he kept a time to punish him, as hee saith, in the 75 Psalme, the second verse.

When I see a convenient time, then will I execute iudgement.

Now the time was come, when this king should be made an example vnto all other kinges after him, to amend their liues, and reforme their realme. When the Prophet commeth from G o p vnto them, to tell them what they should doe,

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when dreame and Daniel had done what they could: now God calles foorth his judgement, and bids them fee what they can doe, and commaundes them to chase Nabuchadnezzer, vntill hee haue lost his kingdome, vntill hebe driuen out of his pallace, vntill hebe degenerate like a beaft, vntill his fubiectes, and feruants, and pages, make their fport, and gaze and wonder at him, like a foole which goeth vnto the stockes, or a trefpasser, which is gazed at vpon the pillorie : So this king was debafed, when Go p heard him but vaunt of his buildings.

Therefore lette vs take heede, and bee carefull, after what forte we speake, and what wordes slippe from vs, least G o b take vs in our lies, or othes, or slaunders, or ribauldrie. bauldrie, as hee tooke Nabuchadnezzer, when his toong walked without a bitte: for if he had fupposed that Godhad bene so neare, and that he would have answered him as he did he would have held his peace, and laide his hand vpon his mouth, rather then pay so deare for a vaine worde, which did him no good when it was spoken.

The fecond note is of the judge. A voice came downe from heaven: the controuling voice came downe from heaven, God is most offended with our finne : for Nabuchadnezzer might have spoken more than this, before any other man, because hee was aking, which delight in greater vanitie than building, yet no man faith, why doeft thouso: because Salomon saith; Prou. 17.9.

He which repeateth a matter, seperate 105500

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theprince, that is, hee which tels Princes their fault, make them his enemies: therfore fince Iohn Baptift died, onely God is left to reproueat that time by authoritie: yet one in heaven had an eare, and a toong, and checkt the king as boldly, as ever the king checkt his subjectes. When the voyce from earth spake vainely, the voice from heauen spake judgement. Here is the king of heaven against the king of earth, the voice of God against the voice of man; adenine wrath, warring with an humane pride: the fire is kindled; weeto the stubble. The Lord of hostes is in armes against the Lorde of Babel, and beginnes to lave handes on him, and to thrust him out of his throne . First hee rattels him like a thunder: O king Nabuchadnezzer,

nezzer, as if hee should say, for all thou art a king, thou shalt see whetheranother be about thee. Nowe gard thy person, now defend thy honor: for he whom thou halt defpiled, threatneth to take thy kingdome from thee: go now & walke in thy gallery, fetch one turn more before thou be turned out of dore, and walke with the beaftes in the forrest. Now hee comes to the arraignment, and cals him to the bar. o king Nabuchadnezzer, to thee be it spoken : he was never called king with leffe reuerence, not had fuch pay for finne in all his raigne. God gives him his title, but lice tels him his lot : he cals himking, but without a kingdome, as if hee faide, late king of Babel, holde up thy hande: here a king is arraigned in his kingdom, & no euidence giuen against B 4 him,

him, but as though he had witneffedagainst himselfe, as all sinners doe, God condemneth them out of his owne mouth, and to open his eares, he cals him by his owne name, O king Nabuchadnezzer, as the prisoner is cald when he holds vp his hand at the barre. Then hee pronounceth the judgement, To thee be it spoken, to thee which aduanceth himselfe like God, to thee which wouldest not be warned by the Prophet, to thee which didft all for thine owne honour. Nowe hearken to the judgement, Thy kingdome is departed from thee, thou shalt be driven out of thy pallace, they which shoulde honour thee shal expulse thee, thou shalt raigne with the beafts in the defart, there shall bethy dwelling seuen yeres, goe now and stalke in the woods,

as thou didft in thy pallaces, and when thouart among the lions & wolues, and Beares, looke vnto Babel which thou hast builte. How doth this speech differ from Nabuchadnezzers speech: his words were but wordes, but Gods words were, He fake, and it was done. For Gen. 1. in the same houre that which was fpoken was done(fayth Daniel) & whatfoeuer the fame voice threatneth vnto our finnes or vnto the finner, shalbe done at first or at last. To Nabuchadnezzer it was fayd, Thy kingdome shall be taken from thee: to vs it is fayd, Thy life shall be taken from thee: to him it was faid, Thou shalt be thrust forth into the defart, to vs it is fayd, Thou shalt bee throwen forth into darknesse: to him it was fayde, Thou shalt bee like beafts: to vsit is faid, Thou shalt be like

like the dampned. Shall not the voice spoken to vs be remembred with God, as well as the threatning menaced to him:

This voice came from heauen, and therefore it spake home, not like them which glide by the faultes of Princes and whifper behind their backes, as though they would reproue them if they durft, but for feare least the Prince, or Councellour, or Judge, or Magistrate, should take it as hee meanes it and think that he aimes at them, which makes them speake in parables, as though they woulde cast a vaile ouer their reproofe, and eate their message before they have spoke it. The holy Ghost reacheth vs here to reproue, fo that who foeuer finneth, may knowe, that thou speakest to him. Hee which speaketh

eth from heauen (as the voice did) must speake like Iohn Baptistamong the Publicans and harlots, and fouldiers, as though hee went from one to another, and fayde, this is spoken to thee, this is spoken to thee, this is spoken to thee. For vnleffe wee come neerethefe mortall Gods and proude Nabuchadnezzers, as neere as Elias came to 1.Kin. 18. Achab, when he fayd, It is thou that troublest Ifrael, they will post it oner, and thinke that thou speakest not to them, vntill thou speakest plainly, as this voyce spake from heauen, To thee bee it spoken. And then they will reforme the matter, or elfe Go wwill shew some iudgement uppon them, as he did here vpon this great King Nabuchadnezzer. Now the decree goeth forth, that Nabuehadnezzer fhall 2019

shall be king no more. Thy kingdom is departed from thee . This is such a faying, as if Nabuchadnezzer had thought of it before, hee would haue wept when hee vaunted, to thinke his honor was going from him, when he thought it was comming to him: yet his kingdome was not departed from him, & yet God faith, Thy kingdome is departed from thee, because thy decree was paft, which should as furely come to passe, as if it were pastalreadie. Therefore because we care not so long as the Prophet faith, we shall die, we shall fuffer, we shall answer, they leave Shall, and fay Now, as God faidto Abimilec: Then art a dead man, not theu fhalt, but thou art dead, which roused him more, then if hee had threatened him an hundred deaths, because hee thought that

Gm, 20.3.

that he should die presently: so the holy Ghost is forced as it were to exceed, and speake more than wee thinke hee should speake, for the hardnes of our hearts, which heare like stones, and goe like snailes. If we have but a weeke to repent, we will defer it to the last day, that we

may finne all the rest.

Therefore it was meete to saye, Thy kingdome is departed from thee. That seeing his iudgement should not stay, hee should not stay his repentance. If this voice had saide, Thy Babel shall sinke, as Nemrods Babel did, it seemed he would have thought his honour buried, but when he was stript, not only of his pallace, but also of his kingdome, what heavie newes was this vnto him, which thought himself equal with God, and now may not bee a king:

King. Butwhen hee was thrust among beafts to eatgraffe with oxen, what a downfal was this to be brought vnder all his fubicates, which spake euen nowas though there were none but he: and now his feruants feruant would not be like vnto him? So the king of kings willbehonoured of kings, as they are of theirfubiects, or elfe he will tread vpon their crowns, and they shall heare the same at last, Thy kingdom shalt depart from thee. Now followeth the execution of this iudgement, for Daniel fayth, The Same houre all this was fulfilled. So he thewes the order of it, as a prisoner is brought to the barre, and lead to the gybbet, so this king was drawn from his throne, and turned into the wildernesse, where hee abode among wilde beafts fo long, Till his haires

baires were growen like Eagles feathers, and his nailes like birdes clawes.

When Goo began, he made haft, it was long before hee fpoke, but when hee spoke, hee did it, and effected in an houre all that hee dreamed, and the Prophet had foretold. Then was fulfilled, The pride of man shall bring him low: Euen in that houre that Nabuchadnezzer aduaunced himfelfe more then before, in the fame houre hee was brought vuder all his fubiects, all his feruauntes and pages: fo hee which fets vp can pull downe, hee which gaue can take, hee which made canne de-Stroie.

though hee were a king of his house or land, or farme or children but

but know that he should have nothing, if God did not regarde him more than other: and thinke when thou doest reade this storie, whether thou bee not as proude of thy wealth, as Nabuchadnezzer was of his pallace: whether thou bee not as proud of thy children, as Nabuchadnezzer was of his kingdome: whether thou bee not as proud of thy parentage, as Nabuchadnezzer was of his honour: whether thou be not so proud of thy learning, as Nabuchadnezzer was of his traine. If thou be not so proud, then God doth fay no more, o king, to thee be it spoken, these blessings shall be taken from thee. For, hath God taken no mans kingdom from him but Nabuchadnezzers ? Hath he taken no mans office from him but Iudas? hath he taken no mans riches from him

himbut Jobs: How did Antiochus and Iulian, and Herod, and Saul, and Athalia and Iezabel, and Richard the thirde goe from their throanes, as if God had pulled the out by the eares: he had no respect vnto their persons, but vsed them like beafts, as hee did Nabuchadnezzer, & fulfilled his threatning. The candle of the wicked shall bee put out. Therefore as Christ saith ynto them which turne back, Remember Lots wife: fo I saie to them which beare high mindes, and proude lookes, and frout wordes, remember king Nabuchadnezzer, how God relifieth the proud. Noweif anie manlong to be resoluted how this king was chaunged to a beaft, he must not imagine anie strange metamorphosis, or popish tran-Substantiation as though his shape were BITTED

were altered or his manhood remoued, or that he put on hornes & hoofe, as the Poets faine of Acteon, for the voice doth not faie that he should become a beaft, but that he should dwell with the beastes. Daniel doth not faie, that his head or arms, or legs were transformed, but that the haire of his head & the nailes of his fingers did grow lyke Eagles feathers, & like birds claws, as euerie mans haire and nailes wil if he donot pare them. Laftly, Nabuchadnezzer faith not, that his fhape was restored vnto him, but that his vnderstanding was restored vnto him: all which declare that he was not changed in bodie, but in minde: not in shape, but in quality. A fauage manner came on him, like that which drove Caine fro the companie of men, & he be-

Gen 4.12.

came

came like a Satire or wilde man, which differeth not from a beaft but in shape: though hee was not turned to a beaft, yet this was a strangealteration, to bee so chaunged in an houre, that his nobles abhorred him, his subjects despifed him, his fernants forfookehim, none woulde companie with him but the beaftes . Confider this all that advance themselves against God and despise his word, as Nabuchadnezzendid. Take warning by a king, which even nowe walked in his galleries, and his nobles ferued him in his pallace, with all dishes that the aire, or sea or lande could affoord: now hee is turned to grase and feede like an oxe with the beafts in the wildernes. This was to shew that Gop makes no more account of the wicked then

of beafts, and therefore the holie Choft calleth them often by the name of beafts: shewing how that finne and pleasure make men lyke beafts, whe they have abused their wits often, and peruented their reas fon, at last God takes their vnder standing from them, and they become like beaftes , louthfore to themselves and others many such beafts we have ftil like Nabuchadnezzer, who were fitter to live in the defert amongst Lyons, then in Townes mongst men, where they infed more then the plague. Thus if you have not confidered the beaftlines of finne, looke vpon Nabuchadnezzer like a beaft. If thou wouldst see the guilt of it, lookevppon wandering Cain. If thou wouldst fee the frenzie of it,

looke vppon frantike Saule, If thou

thou wouldst see the search of it, looke upon trembling Baltazer, Dan. 5.6. If thou wilt see the shame of it, looke upon Haman hanging upon his gallowes. If thou wilt see the ende of it, looke upon the glutton Luk. 16.23. frying inhell. These are the pictures of sinne, which God hath set for a terrour before us, sike the pil- Gen. 19.26. ler of salte, or Achans sepulcher to losua. 7.26. speake to us. Take heede by those, when I haue warned you as I warned them, I will punish you, as I punished them.

This is the Epitaph, as it were; which God ingraues vpon Nabu-

chadnezzers sepulcher.

Be thou an example to kings and rulers, for all the children of pride to beware how they fette themselves against him who advanced them.

Thus he which fets vp, can pull down.

down Didnot I fend thee dreams to warnethee Did not, I lende a Prophet to warne thee! If either of them would have ferued, thou mighth haue ruled ftill, and walkied in thy galleries, and feafted in thy pallace and judged uppon thy throne and diedaking. But nowe thy kingdome is departed from thee, who would be like Nabuchad negger, now the king is like a beafter If this heathen was thus challenged for his warning , which had heard but one Prophet, wee maye tremble to thinke, what wee shall aunswere for our warning, which haue beene threatened as often as the Israelites, and yet prouoke the Lord while he ferueth vs, like those which curse the funne, while it shineth vpon them.

Thus have you seene the fall of pride.

pride. Euen now he said, Is not this great Babel? Now he may say: Is not this vnhappy Babel? Euen now hee saide, which I have built by the might of my power: and now he may say: which I have built by the vanitie of my pride: euen nowe hee said, for the honor of my maiestie: now hee may saye, for the ruine of my kingdome: yetafter this he roseagaine, and came to himselfe, and received his kingdome, and honored him which punished him so:

but the time wil preuent me to speake of his restitution, therefore here I end.

FINIS.

Printed by T.S. and are to be fold by William Wright.

1591.

pride. Euen now he laid, it met this great Tabel: Now he may fay: Is northis vallappy & thel' Euennose beetaide; which I have built by the night desponer and now he may tay: which I have boilt by they a title of my brides even noweher Lite of me honor of me mile wing becausy ever for the raine of thy kinedastas ventreschishestenik gaine, and came to himfelfe, and receited his langdom cand hourof mid believe doldy mid bin lo but the ame will prought my solbenicof his office.

don, therefore

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